United Nations

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THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- Executive Delegate of the Secretary-General to coordinate United Nations Inter-Agency Humanitarian Programme for Iraq, Kuwait and the Turkish and Iranian border areas appeals for $423 million for regional emergency plan to alleviate "desperate" condition of Iraqi refugees.

- Security Council holds consultations to prepare reply to Iraq concerning resolution setting terms for formal cease-fire.

- Secretary-General announces appointment of Chief Military Observer of United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission.

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The Executive Delegate of the Secretary-General to coordinate the United Nations Inter-Agency Humanitarian Programme for Iraq, Kuwait and the Turkish and Iranian border areas, Sadruddin Aga Khan, today appealed for about $423 million to cover new financial requirements for the emergency programme for refugees in Iran and Turkey.

Briefing correspondents in Geneva, the Executive Delegate said all aid to the affected population had to be "objective" and "impartial" in order not to "politicize developments". He stressed the importance of a unified United Nations approach to address the various problems concerning the refugees.

Regarding immediate humanitarian solutions as far as the Kurds were concerned, he said a "safe haven" might be seen as being "apolitical", but the problem was where to put the people and how to deal with their needs. "One could not have another Gaza Strip in the province of Kurdistan", he added.

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The Security Council held consultations this afternoon to prepare a reply to Iraq concerning its acceptance of the resolution setting the conditions for a formal cease-fire in the Persian Gulf, adopted by the Council on 3 April.

(more)

For information media—not an official record

After expressing reservation about the terms set in the resolution, Iraq said in its reply to the Council, dated 6 April, that it had no choice but to accept the resolution.

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Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar has announced the appointment of Major-General Gunther Greindl of Austria as Chief Military Observer of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) established by the Security Council to monitor the demilitarized zone between the two countries.

Major-General Greindl has previously served in two United Nations peace-keeping forces. From 1977 to 1978, he served as Chief Operations Officer of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) and, from 1981 to 1989, was the Force Commander.

In 1979, he was appointed Commander of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF), stationed on the Syrian-Israeli border.

At the time of his appointment to UNIKOM, General Greindl was the Austrian Military Attache to Switzerland.

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